

Arlington Conservation Commission  
Minutes  
March 5, 2015

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, Charles Tirone, Susan Chapnick, Eileen Coleman, David White, Janine White, Associate Michelle Durocher, and Associate Mike Nonni of the Commission. Cori Beckwith, Commission Administrator, Curt Connors of the Commission, and Associate Catherine Garnett were not present. Also present was Cheryl Miller, Conservation Land Stewards Coordinator.

7:30pm – Commission Business

22 Mill Street – application materials distributed to Commission for 3/19/15 meeting

Mystic 35 River Enhancement Project grant application was submitted Feb 27, 2015, award announcement due Apr. 17, 2015.

Enforcements:

16 Spy Pond Pkwy: Ms. Beckwith or Mr. Stevens will write letter to owner about deck; follow up at 3/19/15 meeting

Viking Ct – snow dumping to Noname Brook – Second Enforcement Order sent 3/5/15 (Mr. Stevens sent out)

Conservation Commission – Full and Associate Member positions:

The Town received one applicant for the Full Member position: Michael Nonni. Mr. Tirone made a motion to recommend to the Town Manager that Mr. Nonni be appointed a Full Member of the Conservation Commission based on Mr. Nonni's past participation as an Associate Member (for the past year), where Mr. Nonni demonstrated his commitment and put in many hours in support of Commission work including as an active member of the Symmes Workgroup and in support of Spy Pond plantings, as well as other Commission business. The motion was seconded by Ms. Coleman. The Commission voted unanimously to approve Mr. Nonni's recommendation.

Ms. Chapnick made a motion to recommend to the Town Manager that Ms. Coleman become an Associate Member of the Conservation Commission, to be approved as such when Mr. Nonni is sworn in as a Full Member. Ms. Coleman is currently a Full Member and wishes to continue her involvement as an Associate Member of the Commission. Mr. White seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

Action Item: Mr. Stevens will email the Town Manager about these 2 nominations.

Conservation Land Stewards – Cheryl Miller joined the Commission to discuss initiatives in support of Land Stewards.

Ms. Miller would like to have more information on the web for Land Stewards and a Facebook page to reach more prospective participants, get more citizen involvement, and generate more interest.

Discussion ensued about web pages and platforms such as Word Press and adding interactive maps, more information, and links back to the Town website. Ms. Durocher said that Word Press was a good platform for web page. Mr. Nonni said setting up a Facebook page would not be difficult (based on his experience doing so for a small business). The Town of Arlington has a Facebook page; the Animal Control Officer posts on a page; so other Town groups have

pages; therefore, there is a precedent for this. Cheryl would need to have access to both the web page and Facebook to post or blog periodically. Mr. White suggested that the LandTrust may also be a good resource.

Mr. Stevens suggested that Ms. Miller contact the Town Information Officer, Joan Roman and coordinate with Adam Kurowsky about interactive / google maps. Mr. White said he would help out with this.

Questions raised include: Who would host the web site? What is the budget required for domain name, hosting, other? Would it be a Town website or a private web site? Who would be the "official" person to respond to emails and questions?

Action Item: Ms. Miller will email Joan Roman and Adam and copy Ms. Beckwith and Mr. White on this email and follow up.

EcoFest – Sat March 7<sup>th</sup> 10-2pm; Energy theme so no table for Arlington Con Com

Spy Pond – brief update that permit running out this year for treatment; Joey Glushko – planning and permit treatment options (include chemicals) for invasive control

Regulations – In support of local Wetland Regulations for the Town of Arlington, Mr. Stevens asked the Commission if anything specific on storm water design should be added (e.g., Low Impact Development design, etc.) or if we should just default to MassDEP standards?

Action Item: Ms. White agreed to review the storm water design regs and come back to the Commission with recommendations.

Water Bodies – Ms. Durocher gave an update on Water Bodies from the Finance Committee: vote will be favorable \$40K as requested for testing, maintaining, treating and oversight of the Town's water bodies.

Conditions: Town Manager will report in a year about the Water Bodies – status of the various water bodies of the Town, including ponds and brooks, and the short and long term policies and programs that will be needed to maintain their quality.

Finance Committee believes there needs to be a long-term plan.

The Commission's Water Bodies Workgroup is working towards this goal.

Action Item: Ms. Chapnick will distribute via email the current spreadsheet from the Water Bodies Workgroup to the Commission.

Symmes – Mr. Nonni reported that he has not heard anything from Symmes in a month.

Ethics Course – Reminder to Commission members that they need to complete the on-line Ethics course by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Chapnick

Member, Arlington Conservation Commission